Amendments to the Claims:

Please delete claims 1-28 and add new claims 29-50.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Cancelled)

27. (Cancelled)

28. (Cancelled)

29. (New) A hemimagnesium salt of rabeprazole.

30. (New) The salt according to claim 29, which is in an amorphous form.

31. (New) A process for preparing rabeprazole hemimagnesium salt, which comprises contacting rabeprazole or its sodium salt with a magnesium salt of an acid or a magnesium alcoholate.

32. (New) The process of claim 31 wherein the magnesium salt is than of an acid

33. (New) The process of claim 32 wherein the contacting is done in presence of a solvent,

34. (New) The process of claim 33 wherein the process is carried out in the presence of a base when rabeprazole is used.

35. (New) The process according to claim 31, wherein the magnesium salt of an inorganic acid is used.

36. (New) The process according to claim 35, wherein the magnesium salt is selected from magnesium chloride, magnesium nitrate, magnesium sulphate, magnesium phosphate, magnesium carbonate, or magnesium dihydrogenphosphate.

37. (New) The process according to claim 31, wherein the magnesium salt of an organic acid is used.

38. (New) The process according to claim 37, wherein the magnesium salt is selected from magnesium oxalate, magnesium acetate, magnesium lactate, magnesium succinate, magnesium citrate, or magnesium tartrate.

39. (New) The process according to claim 34, wherein the base is selected from alkali metal hydroxides, alkali metal carbonates, or alkali metal bicarbonate

40. (New) The process according to claim 39, wherein the base is selected from sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate, or sodium bicarbonate.

41. (New) The process according to claims 33, wherein the solvent is selected from water, alcohol, ketone, ester, ether, nitrile, dipolar aprotic solvent, or hydrocarbon or mixtures thereof.

42. (New) The process according to claim 41, wherein the solvent is selected from methanol, ethanol, propanol, acetone, methyl isobutyl ketone, ethylacetate, dioxan, tetrahydrofuran, acetonitrile, dimethylsulfoxide, dimethylformamide, hexane, or toluene or mixtures thereof.

43. (New) A process of claim 31, wherein a magnesium alcoholate is used

44. (New) A process of claim 43, which comprises reacting rabeprazole with magnesium alkoxide in an alcohol.

45. (New) The process according to claim 44, wherein the magnesium alkoxide is generated in situ by treating magnesium metal in the corresponding alcohol.

46. (New) The process according to claim 44, wherein magnesium alkoxide is selected from magnesium methoxide, magnesium ethoxide, magnesium propoxide and magnesium isopropoxide.

47. (New) The process according to claim 44, wherein the alcohol is selected from methanol, ethanol, propanol or isopropanol.

48. (New) A method for treating or preventing gastrointestinal ulcers, which comprises administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of rabeprazole hemimagnesium salt.

49. (New) A pharmaceutical composition for use in the treatment or prevention of gastrointestinal ulcers comprising an effective amount of rabeprazole hemimagnesium and pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

50. (New) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 49 wherein an amorphous form of rabeprazole magnesium is used.